

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending.

Claim 1 is amended to claim a difference function that is calculated between "the theoretical instant at which the utilization of the data begins and the theoretical instant at which the utilization is to be triggered". Support for this amendment is found in the specification on page 6, lines 28-23.

Claim 19 is amended to more specifically claim the relationship between the claimed subtitle information and MPEG images, for which the subtitle information is displayed over. Support for this amendment is found in the specification on page 3, lines 3-19, and in other places.

No new matter was added to the application in view of the amendments.

1. 35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection of Claims 1-2, 6, 9-10, and 14-16, and 18

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-2, 6, 9-10, 14, 16, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Greer et al. (U.S. Patent # 5,574,798, hereafter referred to as 'Greer'). Applicant disagrees with this ground of rejection.

Claim 1, now amended, claims "a function of the difference between the theoretical instant at which the utilization function of the data begins and the theoretical instant at which the utilization of data is to be triggered". This function is neither disclosed nor suggested in Greer.

Applicant also disagrees with the Examiner's contention that the "display time" of Greer is the same as the claimed "utilization of processed data having to be triggered at a given theoretical instant" (see page 2, third paragraph of the Office Action). The section cited to by the Examiner in Greer details Fig. 2 that

a user would input for the invention, specifically values pertaining to "time", "maxdisp", and "mindisp". The value "time" is defined as the "desired total presentation time for all images combined" (Greer, col. 3, lines 8-9). The value "mindisp" is defined as the "minimum display time for any single image" (Greer, col. 3, lines 14-15). The value "maxdisp" is defined as "a maximum display time for any single image". In such, these values are related to the duration of time for when a single image is displayed (mindisp, maxdisp), and the duration of time when all of the images combined are to be displayed (time).

These values have nothing to do with "utilization of processed data having to be triggered at a given theoretical instant" as claimed in Claim 1 which is not the same thing as the duration of time for displaying an image that is cited to in Greer by the Examiner. Furthermore, the formula given to calculate such display duration further reiterates the concept that Greer is concerned with time of duration for displaying an image (see Greer col. 5, line 50 to col. 6, line 6). When Greer further details, "the converter program begins to sum the display times" (Greer, col. 6, lines 19-20). If the display time was the same thing as the "utilization of processed data having to be triggered at a given theoretical instant" as claimed in Claim 1, the text of Greer would not make any sense. Specifically, there is no constraint in Greer regarding the time at which the data has to be displayed, unlike what is claimed in Claim 1.

For the reasons given in connection for Claim 1 above, Applicant requests that the Examiner remove the rejection to this claim. In addition, Applicant requests that the Examiner remove the rejection to Claim 9 for the same reasons given above for Claim 1. Applicant further requests that the rejection be removed for Claims 2 and 6, with Claims 10, 14, 16 and 18, as such claims depend on Claims 1 and 9, respectively.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection of Claims 7-8 and 15

The Examiner rejects Claims 7-8 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Greer in view of Yagasaki et al. (U.S. Patent # 5,847,770). Applicant disagrees with this ground of rejection.

As stated above, Greer does not disclose or suggest the concept of a "theoretical instant" as claims in independent Claims 1 and 9, from which Claims 7-8 and Claim 15 depend on respectively.

In addition, Applicant asserts that one skilled in the art would not be motivated to combine Greer with Yagasaki in the manner cited to by the Examiner, as the references teach away from such a combination. Greer is directed towards calculating the duration of time an image is presented, where the image is part of a presentation of images (Greer, Abstract). These duration times are calculated "based on a respective amount of the image content in the image, the greater the information content the longer the display time" (Greer, Abstract).

Yagasaki is concerned with the operation of an address list and buffer memory for the allocation of "multiple subtitles" where each subtitle is associated with a data node. Each data note includes data "corresponding to the time and position at which a respective subtitle is to be superimposed on a video image" (Yagasaki, Abstract). The time and position data for a subtitle is already pre-defined in Yagasaki where, "a subtitle signal which represents a subtitle to be displayed on a video image, along with display time data, and display position data are supplied to coder 28" (Yagasaki, col. 1, lines 32-34). There would be no need for one to combine Greer with Yagasaki as the duration time for displaying a subtitle is already supplied in the system in Yagasaki.

Furthermore, Greer is a system that is concerned with the amount of information in a single image, where the duration that an image is display is proportional to the amount of information in such an image (Greer, Abstract).

Yagasaki operates in a different manner where a subtitle is superimposed on a series of images (Yagasaki, col. 1, lines 13-28). The subtitle information of Yagasaki is separate from the image information (for the video sequence) from which the subtitle information is superimposed on such sequence of images (such as MPEG video). In Greer, there is no subtitle information because the described techniques in Greer focus on attributes of the image itself, not on corresponding subtitle information that is superimposed on MPEG video, as in Yagasaki.

For the reasons given above, Applicant asserts that Claims 7-8 and 15 are patentable. Applicant requests that the Examiner remove the rejection to these claims.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection of Claim 17

The Examiner rejects Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greer in view of Iwamura et al. (U.S. Patent # 5,987,214). Applicant disagrees with this ground of rejection.

For the reasons given above for Claim 1, dependent Claim 17 is patentable as the claim depends on Claim 1. Applicant requests that the Examiner remove the rejection to the claim.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection of Claims 19-20

The Examiner rejects Claims 19-20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yagasaki in view of Greer. Applicant disagrees with this ground of rejection.

Please charge any fees owed in connection with this action to Deposit Account 07-0832.

It is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6809, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,



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